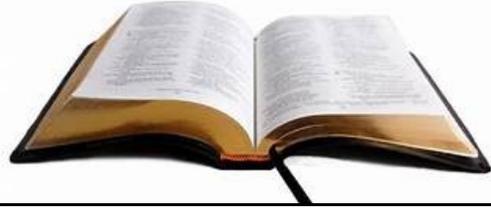


Sermon Notes



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Gene Taylor

God Is Faithful

Introduction

1. Faithfulness is a quality or attribute applied in the Scriptures to God—it is a constant theme in the Bible.
2. Faithfulness is dependability, loyalty and stability.
 - a. All of these describe God in His relationship to man.
 - b. God is “the faithful God who keeps His covenant.” (Deut. 7:9)
 - c. “Great is Your faithfulness.” (Lam. 3:23)
3. In this lesson, we are going to consider the faithfulness of God by:
 - a. Establishing the reality of His faithfulness.
 - b. Presenting evidence for His faithfulness.
 - c. Seeing how God’s faithfulness affects us today.

I. The Reality of the Faithfulness of God

- A. The Scriptures contain many references to the faithfulness of God.
- B. The psalmist and the prophets repeatedly cited God’s faithfulness. (Psa. 36:5; 37:3; 89:1-2; 92:1-2; 119:90; Lam. 3:22-23; Isa. 49:7; Hos. 11:12)

II. Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

- A. It is one thing to claim that God is faithful but it is an entirely different matter to prove it.
 1. One may claim to be something when he is nothing. (Gal. 6:3)
 2. One sure way to prove His faithfulness is to consider His dependability when it comes to the covenants He has made with man.
- B. Considering several of the covenants God has made with man which will not only illustrate but also provide testimony to the fact that God is faithful.
- C. The covenant with Noah.
 1. God made a covenant with Noah assuring him that He would never again destroy the world by flood. (Gen. 9:11)
 2. God established that covenant and, in His faithfulness, has upheld the promise He made in it. (Gen. 9:14-17)
- D. The covenant with Abraham.
 1. God promised to bless Abraham’s descendants and make them His special people.
 2. God reaffirmed His promise to Abraham in Genesis 15.
 3. God remained true to His word and fulfilled every promise in this covenant He had made with Abraham. (Psa. 105:8-12)
 4. God’s faithfulness to this covenant continued to its ultimate conclusion in the seed of Abraham, Jesus Christ. (Gal. 3:16)

- E. The covenant with Israel.
 1. While the children of Israel were encamped at Mount Sinai, God promised to make a covenant with them. (Ex. 19:3-6)
 2. Though Israel time and again failed to honor God's covenant, God continued to faithfully uphold and respect it. (Psa. 106:44-45; 111:5; Rom. 3:3-4)
- F. The covenant with David.
 1. In this covenant David and his descendants were established as the royal heirs to the throne of Israel. (2 Sam. 7:12-16)
 2. In spite of the sins of David's descendants, God kept His covenant He had made with him. (2 Chron. 21:7)
 3. This covenant reached its highest fulfillment when Jesus was born in Bethlehem about a thousand years after the promise of God.
 4. Peter said that Jesus was a fulfillment of the promise to David. (Acts 2:29-36)
- G. That God has always kept His covenants is evidence of His abiding faithfulness. (Dan. 9:4; Neh. 1:5)

III. How the Faithfulness of God Affects Us Today

- A. God promised He would make a new covenant with all mankind. (Jer. 31:31-34)
- B. The death of Jesus on the cross ushered in the new covenant.
- C. Since God has been shown to keep His covenants, His faithfulness is a characteristic of the everlasting new covenant.
- D. Several blessings are given to His children because of God's faithfulness.
 1. God's faithfulness, as well as His righteousness, is manifested in the forgiveness of sin. (1 John 1:9)
 2. God's faithfulness is the assurance of salvation. (Heb. 10:23)
 3. God's faithfulness is the source of deliverance from temptation. (1 Cor. 10:13)
- E. God is faithful to His children because He is first of all faithful to Himself. (2 Tim. 2:13)
- F. This attribute of faithfulness is also ascribed to Jesus in the New Testament.
 1. He is called a "faithful High Priest." (Heb. 2:17)
 2. In Revelation He is called "the faithful witness" and the "Faithful and True." (Rev. 1:3, 3:14; 19:11)

Conclusion

1. "It should never be forgotten that, according to the Scripture, God is faithful in such an absolute sense as to contrast Him with men who are faithful only in a relative sense, and who appear as changeable and faithless in comparison with the faithfulness of God." (*International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia*)
2. Because God is faithful, we can place complete trust in Him knowing that what He has promised He will fulfill. (Prov. 3:5-6)